

Application No. 10/579,576  
Amdt. dated 8 February 2010  
Reply to Office Action of 13 November 2009

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A method for producing nitrogen fertilizer from organic waste products in the liquid phase and for hygienizing the wastes and reducing the emissions by thermal treatment using mineral or organic additions, ~~wherein characterized by that~~ the waste product is heated in a first vessel without acids or alkaliyes to temperatures between 40 and 90° C, ~~assimultaneously~~ the pressure is first evacuated to 10 to 30 kPa, and then the pressure is increased to 40 to 80 kPa, and carbon dioxide and ammonia escape without being accompanied by appreciable amounts of water, the escaping gas containing carbon dioxide and ammonia is cooled down and then introduced into a second vessel to an aqueous absorption agent or brought into contact therewith, the nitrogen fertilizer formed thereby is discharged and the excess gas not having been absorbed and containing carbon dioxide is conducted back into the process, with maintenance of the temperature in the discharge container at a predetermined value, such that the underpressure between 10 and 80 kPa generated at the beginning of the process by a vacuum pump is autogenously maintained by the progress of the process, and the ammonium nitrogen is nearly fully removed.